

A NEW GENUS AND FOUR NEW SPECIES OF
NORTH AMERICAN ANOBIIDAE WITH NOTES

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ABSTRACT

Ptilinobium aberrans, new genus, new species, subfamily Anobiinae, is described from Lower California. The new species *Stagetus grossus* (from Arizona) and *Gastrallus fasciatus* (from New Mexico) are described; each is the second North American species in its genus. The fourth new species described is *Xestobium parvum* from California. *Vrilletta montana* VanDyke is synonymized with *Euvrilletta xyletinoides* Fall, and 2 species previously known from Mexico, *Trichodesma sellata* Horn and *Priobium mexicanum* White, are recorded from California and Arizona respectively.

This paper continues my studies on the Anobiidae. My intentions are to make known heretofore undescribed taxa, publish a new synonymy, and add new distribution records, thereby to increase our taxonomic knowledge of this family. The descriptions offered are of assorted species from southwestern United States and Mexican material that I have recently identified; most species, the new synonymy, and the new records will be included in my forthcoming Catalog of Anobiidae of America north of Mexico.

Ptilinobium White, new genus

General. Body elongate, subcylindrical; pubescence on most surfaces short, moderate in density; surfaces granulate or punctate.

Head. Front flat nearly throughout; carina over antennal base strong; eyes small, bulging. Antenna short, 10 segmented, segments 3-7 subcylindrical, segments 8-10 elongated. Maxillary and labial palpi each with last segment elongated, subfusiform.

Dorsal surface. Pronotum asperate anteriorly and on disk; anterior margin produced and recurved; under surface of pronotum bearing long hairs; lateral margin distinct, nearly complete. Scutellum moderate in size. Elytra punctate, striate, striae more or less distinct; humeri distinct, granulate.

Ventral surface. Prosternum narrow before coxae, front and middle coxae large, subconical, members of each pair touching; metasternum granulate; hind coxae touching, lower margin of each carinate, each coxa nearly attaining lower margin of elytron. Abdomen with first suture straight, weak, remaining sutures straight, distinct; abdominal segment 2 longest, remaining segments subequal in length. Anterior tibia with outer margin denticulate, apex with a curved spine; middle tibia with outer margin weakly denticulate, apex with a spine; tarsi long, first and last tarsal segments longest, 4th segment very small. Male genitalia with lateral lobes broad, apices pointed inwardly; median lobe narrowed medially.

The combination of antennal form and cylindrical body indicates that this genus belongs in the subfamily Anobiinae. The species upon which the genus is founded is one of the most aberrant anobiids I have seen, and I find it difficult to name a genus of Anobiinae to which this genus is allied. The asperate pronotum and denticulate front tibiae strengthen my view that the subfamily Ptilininae should be reduced to a tribe of Anobiinae, since these characters were once regarded as unique for Ptilininae.

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Ptilinobium is separable from members of Ptiliniinae in that the antenna (typical for Anobiinae) has the basal segments reduced and cylindrical, and the 3 apical segments much enlarged. Members of Ptiliniinae have the antenna serrate in the female, pectinate in the male. The following combination of characters is distinctive for *Ptilinobium*: pronotum asperate, front margin produced, recurved, pubescent beneath; antenna 10 segmented, basal segments reduced, apical 3 segments enlarged; head flat; anterior and middle tibia with outer margin of each denticulate.

Ptilinobium is a neo-Latin name formed by combining ptilin- from *Ptilinus* with -obium from *Anobium*; the gender is neuter.

Type-species. *Ptilinobium aberrans* White, new species.

Ptilinobium aberrans White, **new species**

(Fig. 1, 3)

General. Body about 2.9 times as long as wide; sides of elytra subparallel in basal 2/3; pronotum a little narrower than elytra basally. Pubescence yellowish, very short, subappressed; dorsal surface and head with intermixed, erect hairs. Body surfaces more or less shiny. Head and pronotum mostly black, pronotum anteriorly red brown; elytra, antennae, and most of legs red brown; ventral surface mostly dark brown.

Head. Front flat nearly throughout, broadly depressed behind clypeus; vertex with a short, distinct, longitudinal carina; carina over antennal base distinctly produced; surface with moderately dense granulation; eyes small, separated by 2.5 times vertical diameter of eye. Antennal segment 1 broad, arcuate; segment 2 smaller, longer than wide; segment 3 subcylindrical, about 2 times as long as wide; 4th segment a little shorter, wider than 3rd; 5th and 7th segments subequal, small, each a little longer than wide; 6th segment similar to 4th but shorter; segments 8-10 enlarged and elongated, together about 1.5 times as long as all preceding united, segments 8 and 9 similar, each widest before base, each about 3 times as long as wide; segment 10 widest before apex, about 4 times as long as wide. Maxillary and labial palpi with long pubescence; last segment of maxillary palpus widest before middle, weakly arcuate, pointed apically, about 3 times as long as wide; last segment of labial palpus widest about middle, distinctly arcuate, pointed apically, a little over 2 times as long as wide.

Dorsal surface. Pronotum with asperities largest medially in anterior half, a little smaller each side of middle, smallest medially before base; anterior portion broadly, distinctly recurved; undersurface granulate, set off posteriorly by a carina, bearing long, arcuate hairs; pronotal surface punctate throughout, punctures smallest and densest basally. Elytron with punctures forming more or less distinct, somewhat impressed striae, striae weakest apically and at side; surface coarsely granulate.

Ventral surface. Metasternum with fine granules on minutely granulate surface; abdomen finely granulate.

Length. 4.8 mm.

Holotype. Male, LOWER CALIFORNIA, 10 miles east of Mesquite, June 23, 1938, Michelbacher and Ross. Deposited in CAS.

Host. Unknown.

Discussion. This specimen is damaged, with most of the right elytron, an entire hind leg, and the tarsus of the other hind leg missing.

Xestobium parvum White, **new species**

(Fig. 2)

General. Body elongate, cylindrical 2.2-2.5 times as long as wide; body and appendages orange brown to dark brown, head and pronotum usually darkest; pubescence dull yellowish, uniform in color and density, moderate in length, hairs arcuate, weakly bristling in part; most surfaces punctate, some punctate granulate.

Head. Front moderately densely punctate; rims of punctures raised, appearance granulate; clypeus distinctly depressed. Eyes of male bulging, separated by about 2 times vertical diameter of eye; eyes of female less bulging, smaller, separated by over 2 to nearly 3 times vertical diameter of eye. Antenna of male about 0.6 times as long as body, that of female about 0.4 times as long as body; 3 and 5 longest of intermediate segments, 4 next, 6 and 8 shortest; in male last 3 segments about 2 times as long as all preceding united, last 3 segments each 3.5 to 6.0 times as long as wide, last most elongated; in female last 3 segments a little longer than all preceding united, last 3 segments each 2.5-3.0 times as long as wide. Last segment of maxillary palpus subfusiform, about 2 times as long as wide; last segment of labial palpus subtriangular, about 1.5 times as long as wide.

Dorsal surface. Pronotum with a weak longitudinal ridge medially before base, in front of this a weak depression or shallow groove; surface with additional irregularities, especially before base; lateral margin sharp, distinct, complete, explanate, finely serrulate; pronotum at side concave; surface punctate throughout, rims of punctures raised, with granulate appearance. Scutellum wider than long, apex rounded. Elytra nonstriate, with small punctures, moderate in density.

Ventral surface. Moderately densely punctate. Abdominal apex unmodified in both sexes.

Length. 2.7-4.3 mm.

Holotype. Male, CALIFORNIA, hills back of Oakland, April 3, 1931, E. C. Zimmerman. USNM type no. 73742.

Allotype. CALIFORNIA, San Mateo Co., A. Koebele. In USNM.

Paratypes. CALIFORNIA, Alameda Co., San Leandro, T. W. Davies property, 791 Elsie Ave., reared, emerged June 22, 1971, H. B. Leech (2 males, in CAS); 4 males with same data as before except 1 with June 9, 1971, 1 with June 25, 1971, 1 with June 1, 1971, and 1 with June 23, 1971 (first 2 in CAS, last 2 in USNM); Marin Co., Novato, May 19, 1952, J. W. Green (1 male in CAS); Marin Co., Mill Valley, June 30, 1925, E. P. VanDuzee (1 male in CAS); Inverness, June 8, 1950, D. Giuliana (1 male in CAS); Stanford Univ., "4-9 1959", P. S. Bartholomew (1 male in USNM); San Francisco, June 28, 1960, H. B. Leech (2 females in CAS); Alameda, "1/691", Koebele (1

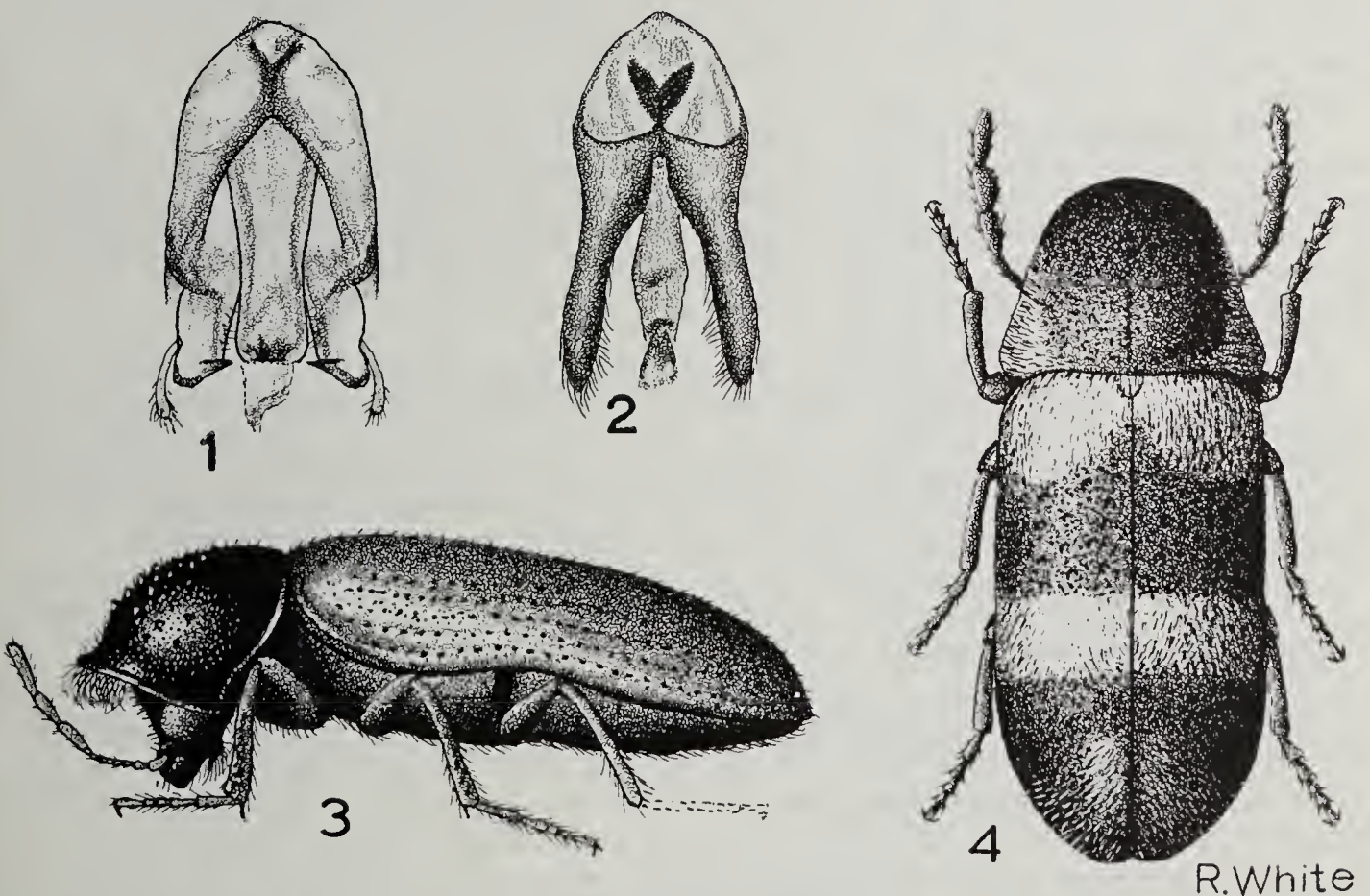


Fig. 1-2, Male genitalia: Fig. 1, *Ptilinobium aberrans* White, holotype; Fig. 2, *Xestobium parvum* White; Fig. 3, *P. aberrans* White, holotype; Fig. 4, *Gastrallus fasciatus* White, male holotype.

female in CAS); San Francisco, A Koebele (1 male in USNM); "Vance", June 1, 1903, H. S. Barber (1 male in USNM); California, Ricksecker, Hubbard and Schwarz (1 female in USNM). There are thus 15 paratypes.

Host. Reared from branch of *Prunus avium* L.

Discussion. This species runs to *X. marginicolle* (Lec.) in my key to species of *Xestobium* (White 1975a, p. 84). *X. marginicolle* has the pubescence distinctly bristling in part (versus weakly bristling), its length is 3.7-5.7 mm (versus 2.7-4.3 mm), in the female the apex of the abdomen is bituberculate (versus not tuberculate) and the median lobe of the male genitalia is subparallel and each lateral lobe is indented apically (versus median lobe widest near middle and lateral lobes not indented).

Fall (1905 p. 150-51) obviously saw members of this species but failed to recognize them as distinct from *X. marginicolle*. He referred to a varietal form that almost totally lacked erect hairs and, in the female, lacked tubercles on the abdomen.

LeConte in his original description of *X. marginicolle* (1859, p. 87) gave the length of "long .21" (=5.3 mm), so there can be no doubt that the description does not refer to the new species.

Stagetus grossus White, new species

General. Body suboval, a little over 1.7 times as long as wide; pubescence yellowish, moderate in length and density, on all surfaces partly inclined, partly bristling; body throughout and legs nearly uniformly dark brown, antenna brown.

Head. Front nearly evenly convex, with a distinct, deep groove adjacent to each eye; surface with large, coarse, dense punctures, variable in size, nearly running together; eyes large, moderately convex, separated by 1.4 times vertical diameter of eye. Antenna with segments 2-8 reduced; segments 5 and 7 distinctly produced inwardly; segments 4, 6, and 8 weakly produced inwardly; segments 9, 10, and 11 enlarged, longer than all preceding united, segments 9 and 10 subtriangular, each longer than wide, 11th segment about 3 times as long as wide. Palpi very large, broad, subtriangular, widest basally, inner margins explanate; last segment of maxillary palpus about 1.5 times as long as wide; last segment of labial palpus a little longer than wide.

Dorsal surface. Pronotum subconical in form; lateral margin sharp, distinct, nearly complete; surface with dual system of punctures, large punctures on disk separated by about diameter of a puncture, large punctures much smaller on base and apex and somewhat smaller on sides than on disk of pronotum; small punctures nearly even throughout. Scutellum subtriangular, wider than long. Elytron with a scutellar and 10 complete, strongly, evenly impressed striae; surface finely, moderately densely punctate throughout.

Ventral surface. Metasternum with a short, longitudinal carina behind intercoxal process, a short, triangular impression behind carina each side of middle; large, dense punctures at base variable in size, separated on average by less than diameter of a puncture, punctures at side extending past middle; small punctures evenly distributed. Abdomen at sides carinate, carina extending to abdominal apex; surface with large and dense punctures, these densest and nearly running together near apex.

Length. 3.9 mm.

Holotype. Male, ARIZONA, Huachuca Mts., Upper Carr Canyon, 7500 feet, August 6-10, 1952, H. B. Leech and J. W. Green. Deposited in CAS.

Host. Unknown.

Discussion. I tried to remove the abdomen of the type to sex it, but had to cease the attempt when it became clear that damage might result.

This species is distinguished from *S. profundus* (Lec.), the only other described species of the genus north of Mexico, by the length, 3.9 mm (versus 2.0-2.5 for *S. profundus*), the non-sulcate metasternum (deeply grooved at middle in *S. profundus*), and the very large, dense punctures on the head (small, not dense in *S. profundus*). Also, *S. profundus* is known from northeast to western U.S., and *S. grossus* is known from only Arizona.

The specific epithet *grossus* refers to the large size.

Gastrallus fasciatus White, **new species**
(Fig. 4)

General. Body elongate cylindrical, nearly 2.3 times as long as wide, sides of elytra subparallel in about basal 3/4; body and appendages brown to red-brown; pubescence short, appressed, moderate in density, obscuring surface sculpture, brown in part, whitish in part, forming an elytral pattern.

Head. Nearly flat front to back; surface finely granulate; eyes moderate in size, moderately bulging, separated by about 2-3 times vertical diameter of eye. Antenna 9 segmented, 0.3-0.4 times as long as body; segment 1 large; segment 2 moderate in size; segments 3-6 small; segments 7-9 enlarged, longer than all preceding united, segments 7 and 8 subequal, each a little longer than wide, segment 9 about 2 times as long as wide. Maxillary and labial palpi each with last segment subfusiform, and about 2 times as long as wide.

Dorsal surface. Pronotum as wide as to a little wider than elytra at base; disk convex, side nearly concave front to back, with obscure, median, longitudinal impression; surface granulate punctate, punctures largest, most distinct at sides; lateral margin sharp, explanate, not attaining anterior margin; whitish pubescence at sides only, remainder with brown pubescence. Scutellum short, broad, wider than long, apex truncate. Elytra lacking striae; surface granulate punctate; whitish pubescence forming basal, submedian and apical bands, submedian band broadened at sides.

Ventral surface. Anterior coxae (and also middle coxae) widely separated; metasternum finely granulate punctate; abdomen finely, obscurely granulate punctate, first abdominal suture nearly obliterated at middle, remaining sutures distinct.

Length. 1.40-1.75 mm.

Holotype. Male, NEW MEXICO, Otero Co., High Rolls, July 13, 1974, D. E. Bright. Deposited in CNC.

Paratypes. Three (probably males) with same data as above. One is in CNC, 2 are in USNM.

Host. *Koeberlinia spinosa* Zucc.

Discussion. This species is readily distinguished from our only other member of the genus, *G. marginipennis* Lec., in having elytral fasciae of pubescence; *G. marginipennis* has pubescence uniform.

Euvrilletta xyletinoides Fall

Euvrilletta xyletinoides Fall 1905, p. 197.

Vrilletta montana VanDyke 1946, p. 85. **New synonymy.**

I examined the holotype of *V. montana* and found it to be identical with *E. xyletinoides*.

NEW U. S. RECORDS OF ANOBIIDAE

The 2 new records below are from specimens I identified from the California Academy of Sciences Collection.

Trichodesma sellata Horn. Formerly known only from Lower California; I examined an individual from San Diego Co., California, taken on Sept. 14, 1949 by E. R. Leach.

Priobium mexicanum White. I (White 1975b, p. 174) described this species from Durango, Mexico. Additional specimens are from 5 mi. west of Portal, Arizona, taken on June 13, 1958 by C. D. MacNeill, and from Chiricahua Mts., Arizona, taken on August 6, 1933 by O. Bryant.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SYSTEMA BIMARGINATA SMITH, NEW NAME, TO REPLACE
SYSTEMA PLICATA BLAKE
 (COLEOPTERA: CHRYSOMELIDAE, ALTICINAE)

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Systema bimarginata Smith, **new name**

Systema plicata Blake 1959:246.

Type-locality: Sierra del Cristal, Oriente Province, Cuba.

Type-location: U. S. National Museum, Type No. 64664.

Remarks: name preoccupied by *Systema plicata* Blatchley 1921:26 (**type-locality:** near Half-Moon Pond, Posey Co., Indiana; **type-location:** Purdue Univ., W. Lafayette, Indiana).

Blake (1959:246) described a new species of *Systema* from Cuba as *S. plicata*. However, this name was preoccupied by *S. plicata* Blatchley (1921:26), a species of flea beetle found in the eastern U. S. Blake's name is therefore a junior homonym and, according to Articles 53 and 60 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, must be replaced.

I first discovered this problem while revising *Systema* (Smith 1970) and talked to Mrs. Blake about it. She suggested that I propose a replacement name. Therefore, I propose the name *S. bimarginata* Smith to replace *S. plicata* Blake.

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